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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Department of Treasury Officials

1. The Director of Security and the writer met with Mr. Henry Giordano, Commissioner, Bureau of Narcotics, [redacted] on 30 January 1967. This meeting had been requested as a matter of urgency by Mr. Giordano who had indicated he had matters of mutual concern to discuss. The meeting took place at a luncheon, and the depth of our discussion was somewhat inhibited.

2. At the outset, Mr. Giordano indicated that the Bureau of Narcotics had received a re-inquiry from the Long Committee relative to the Bureau of Narcotics' activities in the field of wire tapping. Giordano explained that the Treasury Department had originally endeavored to exempt the Bureau of Narcotics from Senator Long's inquiry, but it now appeared that the Bureau was going to be required to respond to the Committee and possibly appear before it in hearings. Giordano indicated that, should he appear before the Committee, it was his opinion that some of the relationships of CIA and the Bureau of Narcotics would be exposed with a resulting embarrassment. In this connection, Giordano said that he had had several meetings with Mr. Karamessines and [redacted] and that he had endeavored to impart his concern to these Agency representatives.

3. After clarifying the Office of Security's liaison relationship with Treasury and the Bureau of Narcotics, the Director of Security invited Mr. Giordano to set forth specific cases or problems that he foresaw from any operational activities in which the Bureau of Narcotics and the Agency had been involved domestically.

[redacted] [redacted]

Giordano indicated that he generally understood the compartmentation of responsibilities within the Agency. Mr. Giordano was somewhat vague in supplying specifics as to joint operational activities in the wire tapping field that might be a source of embarrassment to the Agency. He emphasized that this uncertainty was the central point of his concern. He referred to the establishment of two apartments in the San Francisco, California, area and one apartment in the New York City area which had been jointly used by the Bureau and the Agency. He indicated that technical equipment had been installed in these apartments at Agency expense. Giordano spoke of the activities of Mr. Charles Siragusa and Narcotics Agent White, both now retired from the Bureau. He said that both Siragusa and White had performed numerous operational services for the Agency, both domestically and abroad, but he was vague on specifics and again emphasized that his lack of knowledge and the absence of information in his files was his major concern.

4. The Director of Security asked Giordano directly if Mr. Karamessines, based on his review of the Bureau and Agency relationship, had been able to identify any cases or problems which might be surfaced at a Committee hearing. Giordano said it was his understanding that Mr. Karamessines did not know of any cases involving the Narcotics-Agency relationship which would provide embarrassing material for the Long Committee. Mr. Giordano then said that if Mr. Karamessines was not worried about this situation there was really no reason that he, Giordano, should be concerned. The Director of Security then assured Giordano that Mr. Karamessines is a highly responsible Agency official, and that any statement Karamessines might make would be supported by the Director of Central Intelligence.

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6. It became increasingly apparent to the Director of Security and the writer that Mr. Giordano was extremely harassed at appearing before the Long Committee, and he was seeking any avenue that would afford him exemption from Committee testimony under the aegis that National security matters were involved.

7. The Director of Security told Giordano that the Agency values its liaison relationship with the Bureau of Narcotics, that we are fully aware of the tenuous position of the security and enforcement agencies of Government with relationship to the Committees of Congress, and Giordano was again reassured of the good faith of the individuals from the Agency with whom he is now dealing.

8. Mr. Giordano indicated that he is meeting for further discussions with Mr. Karamessines in the office of Mr. Smith, General Counsel of the Treasury Department, and that this meeting is a prelude to a discussion that Mr. True Davis, Assistant Secretary of Treasury, General Counsel Smith, and Mr. Giordano will have with the Long Committee on 1 February. The meeting ended on a cordial note.

A [redacted]

cc: ADD/P
C/CI Staff
C/TSD

[redacted]